



1. Child Safeguarding Statement

Ógras is an Irish Language based national youth work organisation which provides youth services to those between the ages of 7-19 years. Services include Youth Clubs, Summer Camps, Training Courses as well as hosting national and international events in various locations throughout Ireland. Ógras aims to provide a safe space where young people can fully participate in a youth work programme that is lively, varied and well organised and that inspires creative thinking, self-confidence, social development and language development

2. Commitment to Safeguard Children from harm

Ógras is committed to providing a service of the highest of standards which promotes good practice and provides a safe environment that protects children and young people from harm. It will also ensure that procedures are in place to protect staff / leaders / committees and the organisation from potential allegations.

To ensure this, the following principles are applied:

- Recognise and ensure that the welfare of children is of paramount importance
- Everyone is responsible for child safeguarding and child protection
- Children have the right to be listened to and heard
- Parents and guardians should be respected, and should be consulted.
- Parents and guardians should be involved in issues related to their families unless in doing so puts the child at risk
- Ensure that all staff and volunteers are Vetted by the Garda Síochána
- Provide leaders and staff with Child Protection Guidelines and Code of Practice Guidelines
- Provide training to staff and leaders in relation to the organisation's policies
- Sharing information with the appropriate authorities on the basis of requirement
- Adhere to the procedures set out for the recruitment and selection of staff members and volunteers
- Manage staff and volunteers effectively through support, training and supervision
- We will review our child safeguarding statement and accompanying child safeguarding policies and procedures every 2 years or sooner if necessary, due to service issues or changes in legislation or national policy.

Designated Liaison Person (DLP):

Maedhbh Ní Dhónaill

Office number: 00 353 1 4751487

Phone number: + 353 (0) 86 6018520

E-mail address: maedhbh@ogras.ie

Address: Ógras, 6 Harcourt St., Dublin 2.

Deputy DLP:

Anita Nic Amhlaoidh

Phone number: + 353 (0) 85 7028787

Address: Gaelscoil Nás na Ríogh,

Piper's Hill,

Naas, Co. Kildare.

3. Risk Assessment

In accordance with the Children First Act 2015, Ógras Board of Management has carried out an assessment of any potential for harm to a child while attending the service or participating in activities.

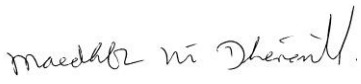
In addition to the procedures set out in the Risk Assessment, the following policies and procedures have been put in place:

- Process to deal with allegations of abuse or misconduct against a member of staff or leader of a child using their services
- Procedure for the safe recruitment and selection of workers and volunteers to work with children.
- Procedure for provision of and access to child safeguarding training and information, including the identification of the occurrence of harm.
- Procedure for the reporting of child protection or welfare concerns to Tusla.
- Procedure for maintaining a list of the persons (if any) in the relevant service who are mandated persons.
- Procedure for appointing a relevant person.
- All procedures listed are available on request.

4. Implementation

We recognise that implementation is an on-going process. Our service is committed to the implementation of this Child Safeguarding Statement and the procedures that support our intention to keep children safe from harm while availing of our services.

This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed by 10 March 2020 or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which the statement refers.

Signed:  (ÓGRAS)

Service Provider's name and contact details:

For further information on this Statement, contact **MAEDHBH NÍ DHÓNAILL**, Relevant Person under Children First Act 2015.